

SOLICITATION NOTICE

2008 CALFED WATERSHED GRANT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS CONCEPT PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Financial Assistance is accepting applications for the 2008 CALFED Watershed Grant Program to support implementation of Watershed Management Plan(s). The CALFED Watershed Program (Watershed Program) was established to help achieve the overarching goal of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program: to restore the ecologic health and improve water management and water quality of the Bay-Delta system, by working with the community at a watershed level. The Watershed Program uses a comprehensive, integrated basin-wide approach to help improve natural resource conditions in the Bay-Delta system, emphasizing local participation and government cooperation at all levels.

It is critical that you contact a representative in Table 1 of this Solicitation Notice as you develop your proposal to ensure it meets eligibility requirements and program preferences.

Funding Available

Approximately \$4 Million of Proposition 50 funds will be available for this solicitation with a minimum grant amount of \$1 Million and a maximum grant amount of \$4 million per project. A minimum match of 25% is required, but may be waived or reduced for projects that directly benefit a disadvantaged community.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include local public agencies, public agencies, public colleges, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, and federal and state agencies.

Program Preferences

The Watershed Program seeks to support a small number of competitive proposals that will implement priorities in a Watershed Management Plan(s) that will directly contribute to improved natural resource conditions within the selected watershed(s), as well as the larger Bay-Delta system. Applicants need to demonstrate a secured funding match, obtain all required permits, and show the commitment of partnerships and cooperating entities. Proposals most likely to receive funding must successfully:

- Implement a suite of priority actions identified in an established Watershed Management Plan,
- Demonstrate readiness to complete the suite of activities within a two-year period, and maintain, monitor and evaluate actions for an additional three-year period,
- Measure, analyze and evaluate the project's effectiveness in improving the natural resource conditions in the watershed(s) and the Bay-Delta system, and
- Demonstrate the value of using a community based watershed approach to improve natural resource management and resource conditions in the watershed.

Solicitation Process

The Solicitation will be a two-step process. In the first step, applicants will submit Concept Proposals using the State Water Board's on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST). Applicants with the most competitive Concept Proposals will be invited to submit a Full Proposal. Applicants invited to submit a Full Proposal may be asked to make a presentation of their proposed project, at the discretion of the Watershed Program and the State Water Board. Full Proposals will require letters of commitment from project partners, copies of the Watershed Management Plan that will be implemented, and evidence of readiness to implement the project. After a thorough review of all Full Proposals, a recommended funding list will be presented to the State Water Board's Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance for approval and funding authorization.

**CONCEPT PROPOSAL SOLICITATION NOTICE
2008 CALFED WATERSHED GRANT PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS**

All applicants requesting funds from the Watershed Program must submit a complete electronic Concept Proposal by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 17, 2008** using the State Water Board's FFAST system at <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov>. **Late applications will not be accepted.** The electronic submittal includes three documents, which the applicant will submit as attachments in the FFAST system:

- **Attachment 1**, Project Description, Maximum of 2 pages.
- **Attachment 2**, Project Map(s)
- **Attachment 3**, Budget & Schedule
- **Attachment 4**, Watershed Management Plan

For questions about the State Water Board's FFAST system, please call (866) 434-1083, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email faast_admin@waterboards.ca.gov.

TABLE 1: PROGRAM CONTACTS

<p>Mr. Dan Wermiel <i>Watershed Program Representative</i> Department of Conservation, Land Resource Protection 801 K Street, MS 18-01 Sacramento, CA 95814 dan.wermiel@conservation.ca.gov OFFICE: (916) 324-9017 FAX: (916) 327-3430</p>	<p>Mr. Ruben Mora <i>State Water Board Representative</i> Division of Financial Assistance 1001 I Street, 16th Floor Sacramento, CA 94244 rmora@waterboards.ca.gov OFFICE: (916) 341-5387 FAX: (916) 341-5707</p>
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TABLE 2: SOLICITATION SCHEDULE

MILESTONE OR ACTIVITY	DATE
Release Solicitation Notice	August 6, 2008
Concept Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	September 17, 2008
Invite selected applicants to submit Full Proposal applications	October 17, 2008
Full Proposal applications must be submitted to the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted after 5:00 p.m. on the due date will not be reviewed or considered for funding.	December 12, 2008
Applicant Interviews (at discretion of the Watershed Program and State Water Board)	January 21 – January 28, 2009
Approval of final grant awards	March 2009